



News Release

WISCONSIN ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

News Media Advisory

Send-off at Volk Field Thursday for National Guard's 32nd Infantry Brigade Headquarters

State, local and military officials are planning a send-off ceremony for about 70 Wisconsin Army National Guard soldiers who were mobilized this week.

The soldiers are members of the Guard's 32nd "Red Arrow" Infantry Brigade Headquarters and Headquarters Company, based at Camp Williams with a detachment in Wausau. The soldiers will be leaving Wisconsin Thursday for mobilization processing and about a month of additional training at Fort Hood, Texas, before deploying overseas for one full year.

The 32nd Brigade headquarters troops will gather with their families for a send-off on Thursday, June 23, at Volk Field Air National Guard Base near Camp Douglas, Wis. Following a 4:30 p.m. ceremony outside a large aircraft hangar, soldiers will have a few final hours with their families until boarding a chartered airliner that will fly them to Texas.

The Volk Field send-off ceremony will be led by Gov. Jim Doyle, Maj. Gen. Al Wilkening and Brig. Gen. Kerry Denson. Senior military officials will also be on hand, along with other elected public officials and soldiers' families.

Music for the ceremony will be provided by the Guard's 132nd Army Band of Madison, which has played for similar send-off and welcome home events for Guard units from around the state.

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National Guard send-off

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Mobilization of the 32nd Brigade headquarters brings the total number of Wisconsin Army and Air National Guard members on active duty to about 1,980.

Two additional battalions from the 32nd Infantry Brigade will be mobilized in August.

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Note to Editors and News Directors: News media are welcome to cover the send-off of the Wisconsin National Guard's 32nd Brigade headquarters at Volk Field Thursday, June 23.

News media access to the base will be available after 2:00 p.m. Thursday afternoon. The official send-off ceremony will begin at 4:30 p.m. and last approximately 30 minutes. Soldiers will depart Volk Field aboard in the early evening aboard a chartered civilian airliner. From the end of the ceremony until they are called to board a flight, soldiers and their families will have time together at the airfield. News media may conduct interviews with consenting soldiers and family members. Senior military officials and public affairs officers will also be available for questions.

IMPORTANT

News media organizations wishing to cover the Volk Field send-off event must call Tim Donovan (608-242-3050 or Cell 608-516-1777) in advance so arrangements can be made for access to the military installation. News media will not be allowed to enter the base unless arrangements have been made in advance.

Volk Field is located off Exit 55 on Interstate 90-94 in Juneau County.

Current National Guard News Releases available at: <http://dma.wi.gov/news.asp>